REMARKS

Applicants hereby affirms the election to pursue claims 10-13 and 16-20 of Group III and the cancellation of the claims in Groups I and II. Claim 16 has also been cancelled by this amendment.

The Examiner in paragraph 6 set forth several objections to the claims. By this amendment, applicants believes that the objections have been overcome by the amendments made herein.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 10-12 under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph for being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regards as the invention for the reasons set forth in paragraph 7. In this regard, claim 10 has been amended extensively to set forth that there is provided a unique ID associated with the location or printer used to produce the document. Also, claim 10 has been amended to distinctly point out that the scanning of the images obtains the unique ID associated with the printer/location and that the unique ID capture device. It is believed that the amendments to claims 17 and 20 overcome the objections. In particular, claim 20 is now dependent upon claim 19 and therefore is not a duplicate as previously set forth. Also, in claim 17 and 19, the unique ID is associated with an image of the recipient.

The Examiner in paragraph 9 rejected claims 10 and 11 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Carr et al., US patent 3,389,151 and Zdybel et al., EP 0459792 for the reasons set forth therein.

Claim 10 as currently amended is directed to a method of verifying that the presenter of an authentication document is the same individual associated with the authentication document. Claim 10 as currently set forth includes several unique IDs associated with the document. First, there is a first indicia that includes a unique ID associated with the holder of the authentication document. This first unique ID is not visible under normal viewing conditions. A second indicia includes another unique ID which is associated with the capture device that was used to capture the image and a third indicia which includes a third ID which is associated with the printing device or location where the image was printed. Claim 10 further includes a scanning device which is used to obtain the unique IDs associated with the capture device and ID associated with

printer/location and comparing these unique IDs with a known database for confirming the capture device or printing device/location that was used for forming of the image on the authentication document. The Carr reference does not disclose the providing of an ID that may be encoded, that is used at a remote database for obtaining independent verification data as claimed by applicants. If the information obtained at the database matches what is on the document verification occurs. While there is suggested in Carr that the encrypted data can automatically be sent to a central facility for decryption as set forth in column 5, lines 18-20, it does not teach or suggest that the ID is compared with information stored at the remote database location as claimed by applicants. Further, it is clear that there is three specific IDs, one with respect to the holder, one with respect that the capture device that is used to capture the image and one with respect to the printer or location where the image was created. There is no comparison of the read data with a separate database, for confirming information with respect to associated IDs for that particular document. The passage in column 5, lines 11-18 of Carr deal with getting data decrypted at a remote site. In applicants invention two independent IDs are used for verification.

While the Zdybel et al. reference teaches use of an indicia that is invisible under normal viewing conditions, it does not each a unique ID associated with a printer/location to produce a hard copy print or capture device used to delete the image. The passage at column 6, lines 10-34 deal with the characterization of the input scanner. That is, this is directed to the type of input device that is being used. This is not directed to a unique ID that is associated with a particular capture device. See the bottom of column 5, line 55, where it states that the identification of the machine which performed that print, the reproduction characteristics of the printer, the screen frequency and rotation used by the printer in rendering half-tones and the identity or characteristics of the print medium. Thus, it can be seen that what is important here is not the particular device itself but the manner in which it was originally rendered. Furthermore, the Zdybel et al. reference does not teach the providing of unique IDs associated with the printing device/location and/or holder as taught and claimed by applicants. The present invention provides a plurality of independent ways whereby a unique ID associated can be verified at a remote location. There is no teaching or

suggestion of doing this individually or in combination between the Carr et al. and Zdybel et al. references. As set forth in column 6, lines 8-10, when a hard copy is produced by a light lens or electronic copier or a facsimile, data characterizing the reproduction equipment and process can be embedded in the hard copy reproduction. It can be clearly seen, that this is not an ID but merely an identification of the characteristics of the equipment used to produce the hard copy rendition.

Claim 12 is depended at least ultimately upon independent claim 10 and is therefore patentably distinct for the same reasons previously discussed. The Cadorette, Jr., et al. does not teach or suggest anything which would render independent claim 10 obvious.

The Examiner in paragraph 11 rejected claim 16 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Rhoads, US patent 5,841,886 and Piosenka et al., US Patent 4,993,068. By this amendment, applicants have cancelled claim 16 and thus, this objection is no longer applicable.

The Examiner in paragraph 12 rejected claim 17 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhoads et al. for the reasons set forth therein. Claim 17 as currently amended sets forth that the authentication document is presented at a remote location by a presenter wherein the scanning of the image and the authentication document is accomplished so as to obtain a unique ID. The unique ID is forwarded to a central database wherein the database is used for providing visual verification that the presenter is the same as the individual to which the authentication document was issued. The unique ID in the present invention is an independent way of obtaining visual verification that the presenter of the authentication document is indeed the proper owner of the document. This system prevents someone from replacing an image with a correct ID that does not conform to the actual image captured when the original authentication document was presented. There is nothing in Rhoads et al. to teach or suggest of a user sending the unique ID to a central database for independently obtaining a visual verification of the presenter at the remote location.

The Examiner has rejected claims 18 and 20 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhoads et al. as applied to claim 17 and further in view of Zdybel et al. for the reasons set forth in paragraph 13. It is respectfully

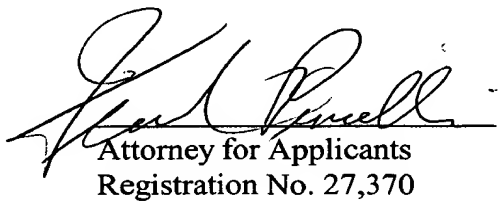
submitted that these dependent claims depend upon independent claim 17 which is believed to be patentably distinct over the prior art and therefore are patentably distinct for the same reasons. The Examiner should note that claim 20 has been amended to be dependent upon independent claim 19 which is later discussed herein as being patentable over the cited art.

The Examiner in paragraph 14 rejected claim 19 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cadorette, Jr., et al., US Patent 6,341,169, further in view of Rhoads et al. for the reasons set forth in paragraph 14. Claim 19 is directed to a system for capturing a live image of the presenter at the time of presentation of the authentication document. Additionally, this claim includes reading a unique ID on the document and sending it to the database. In the particular embodiment, the live image is captured and compared with a visual image independently obtained using the unique ID. Claim 19 is very similar to claim 17 except that the verification is occurring at the central location as opposed to the verification occurring at the remote location. Thus, it is believed that this is patentably distinct for the same reasons previously discussed as the Cadorette, Jr., et al. and Rhoads et al. references fail to teach or suggest this type of system.

In view of the foregoing applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is captioned **"Version with Markings to Show Changes Made"**.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Specification:

Please delete the paragraphs beginning on page 2, lines 27-32; page 3, lines 1-28; page 4, lines 12-31; page 5, lines 1-10 and page 6, lines 13-23.

The paragraph beginning on page 3, line 29 has been amended as set forth below:

In accordance with ~~another~~ one aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of verifying that the presenter of an authentication document is the same individual associated with the authentication document, comprising the steps of providing an image on the authentication document, the image including a first indicia which is not visible under normal viewing conditions, the first indicia comprising a unique ID associate with the holder of the authentication document;

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

a second indicia which is invisible under normal viewing conditions, the second indicia comprising a unique ID associated with the captur~~ed~~ device used to capture the image;

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

a third indicia in the image which is not visible under normal viewing conditions, the third indicia comprising a unique ID associated with the ~~captured device used to capture the image~~location or printer used to produce the document;

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

scanning the image so as to obtain the unique capture ID associated with the printer and/or location and/or the printer ID;

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

comparing the unique ID associated with the capture device and the unique ID associated with the location or printer with a known database for confirming the capture and~~/or~~ printing device or location that was used for producing the document ~~of the image~~ at the designated location ~~or device~~.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 23 with the following rewritten paragraph:

forwarding the image stored at the data base in response to receipt of the unique ID to the remote location for providing visual verification that the presenter is the same as the individual to which the authentication document was issued.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In yet another aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of verifying that the presenter of an authentication document is the same individual to which the authentication document was issued, the authentication document having image of the individual to which the authentication document was issued and an indicia which is not visible under normal viewing conditions, the first indicia comprising a unique ID associate with ~~and~~ an image of the recipient to which the authentication document was issued, the unique ID and the image being digitally stored at a data base;

The paragraph beginning on page 6, before the "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS" is new.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-9, 13-16 and 21-24 have been cancelled.

Claims 10, 12, 17, 19 and 20 have been amended as set forth below:

10.(Once Amended) A method of verifying that the presenter of an authentication document is the same individual associated with said authentication document, comprising the steps of providing an image on said authentication document, said image including a first indicia which is not visible under normal viewing conditions, said first indicia comprising a unique ID associate with the holder of said authentication document;

a second indicia which is invisible under normal viewing conditions, said second indicia comprising a unique ID associated with the captured device used to capture said image;

a third indicia in said image which is not visible under normal viewing conditions, said third indicia comprising a unique ID associated with the ~~captured device used to capture said image~~location or printer used to produce said document;

scanning said image so as to obtain said unique capture ID associated with said printer and/or location and/or said printer ID;

comparing said unique ID associated with said capture device and said unique ID associated with said location or printer with a known database for confirming the capture device and~~/or~~ printing device that was used for producing said document ~~of said image~~ at said designated location or device.

11.(Once Amended) A method according to claim 10 further comprising sending information obtained by scanning of said image to a remote database whereby information relating to said unique ID with respect to said capture device and said ID associated with said location or printer can be viewed and confirmed.

12.(Once Amended) A method according to claim 11 wherein ~~the holder~~ a presenter of said ~~passport~~ authentication document is viewed by a camera at presentation station so as to obtain an image of said presenter, said image being

forwarded to said remote location for comparison with a database to confirm that the individual is associated with that authentication document.

17.(Once Amended) A method of verifying that the presenter of an authentication document is the same individual to which said authentication document was issued, said authentication document having an image of said individual to which said authentication document was issued and an indicia which is not visible under normal viewing conditions, said first indicia comprising a unique ID associated with ~~and~~ an image of the recipient to which said authentication document was issued, said unique ID and said image being digitally stored at a data base;

presenting said authentication document at a remote location by a presenter;

scanning said image at said remote location so as to obtain said unique ID;

forwarding said unique ID electronically to said data base; and

forwarding said image stored at said data base in response to receipt of said unique ID to said remote location for providing visual verification that the presenter is the same as the individual to which the authentication document was issued.

19.(Once Amended) A method of verifying that the presenter of an authentication document is the same individual to which said authentication document was issued, said authentication document having image of said individual to which said authentication document was issued and an indicia which is not visible under normal viewing conditions, said first indicia comprising a unique ID associate with ~~and~~ an image of the recipient to which said authentication document was issued, said unique ID and said image being digitally stored at a data base;

presenting said authentication document at a remote location by a presenter;

scanning said image at said remote location so as to obtain said unique ID;

capturing a live image of said presenter at the time of presentation;

forwarding said unique ID and said live image electronically to said data base; and

comparing said stored image associated with said unique ID with said live image for verification that the presenter is the same as the individual to which the authentication document was issued.

20.(Once Amended) The method according to claim ~~17~~ 19 wherein said unique ID includes information regarding the capture device, the printing device or location used to obtain said image.

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